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Bari language

Bari is the Nilotic language of the Karo people, spoken over large areas of Central Equatoria state in South Sudan, across the northwest corner of Uganda, and into the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Bari is spoken by several distinct tribes: the Bari people themselves, the Pojulu, Kakwa, Nyangwara, Mundari, and Kuku. Each has its own dialect. The language is therefore sometimes called **Karo** or **Kutuk** ('mother tongue') rather than *Bari*.

Bari is a tone language. It has vowel harmony, subject–verb–object word order, and agglutinative verbal morphology with some suppletion. A very competent dictionary and grammar were published in the 1930s, but are very difficult to find today. More recently, a dissertation has been published on Bari tonal phonology, and another dissertation on Bari syntax is available.

Bari	
Karo, *Kutuk*	
Region	South Sudan
Ethnicity	Bari people
Native speakers	750,000 (2000–2014)[1]
Language family	Nilo-Saharan? ▪ Eastern Sudanic ▪ Nilotic ▪ Eastern Nilotic ▪ **Bari**
Dialects	Kuku Mandari
Language codes	
ISO 639-3	Variously: `bfa` – Bari `keo` – Kakwa `mqu` – Mandari
Glottolog	`bari1283 (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bari1283)`[2]

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Dialects

Dialects are:

- Bari proper (Beri)
- Pöjulu (Pajulu, Fadjulu, Fajelu, Madi)
- Kakwa (Kakua, Kwakwak) [radio broadcasts in Uganda]
- Nyangbara (Nyangwara, Nyambara)
- Mandari (Mondari, Mundari, Chir, Kir, Shir)
- Kuku
- Nyepu (Nyefu, Nyepo, Nypho, Ngyepu)
- Ligo (Liggo)

Phonology

Bari has a cross-height vowel-harmony system.[3]

Orthography

The Bari alphabet is used by the Bari and Kuku in South Sudan. There are four digraphs, 'B, 'D, 'Y and Ny, and the letter eng, Ŋ.

Bari alphabet																							
Uppercase	A	B	'B	D	'D	E	G	J	I	Y	'Y	K	L	M	N	Ŋ	Ny	O	Ö	P	R	S	T	U	W
Lowercase	a	b	'b	d	'd	e	g	j	i	y	'y	k	l	m	n	ŋ	ny	o	ö	p	r	s	t	u	w

Bari special characters		
Uppercase	Ŋ	Ö
Lowercase	ŋ	ö
Alternatives	ng	o
Uppercase Unicode (hexadecimal)	014A	00D6
Lowercase Unicode (hexadecimal)	014B	00F6
Unicode Character Code Chart	Latin Extended A	Latin-1

References

1. Bari (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/bfa/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
   Kakwa (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/keo/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
   Mandari (https://www.ethnologue.com/18/language/mqu/) at *Ethnologue* (18th ed., 2015)
2. Hammarström, Harald; Forkel, Robert; Haspelmath, Martin, eds. (2017). "Barian" (http://glottolog.org/resource/languoid/id/bari1283). *Glottolog 3.0*. Jena, Germany: Max Planck Institute for the Science of Human History.
3. SIL Bibliography: Yokwe and Hall 1981 (http://www.ethnologue.org/show_work.asp?id=15871)

General References

1. *Bari Language, Sudan Primer: Sillabari Ko Kutuk Na Bari*. The Catholic Press Institute. Juba, Sudan.
2. Owen, R.C.R. *Bari grammar and vocabulary (https://archive.org/details/barigrammarvocab00owenrich).* 1908. OCLC: 25040516
3. Spagnolo, Lorenzo M. *Bari grammar.* 1933. Verona, Missioni Africane.. OCLC: 34898784
4. Yokwe, Eluzai. *The tonal grammar of Bari.* Doctoral dissertation, University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. 1987.

External links

- Kitap Kwakwaset (http://justus.anglican.org/resources/bcp/Bari/index.html) The Book of Common Prayer in Bari (1953)
- https://web.archive.org/web/20090215100524/http://www.openroad.net.au/languages/african/

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